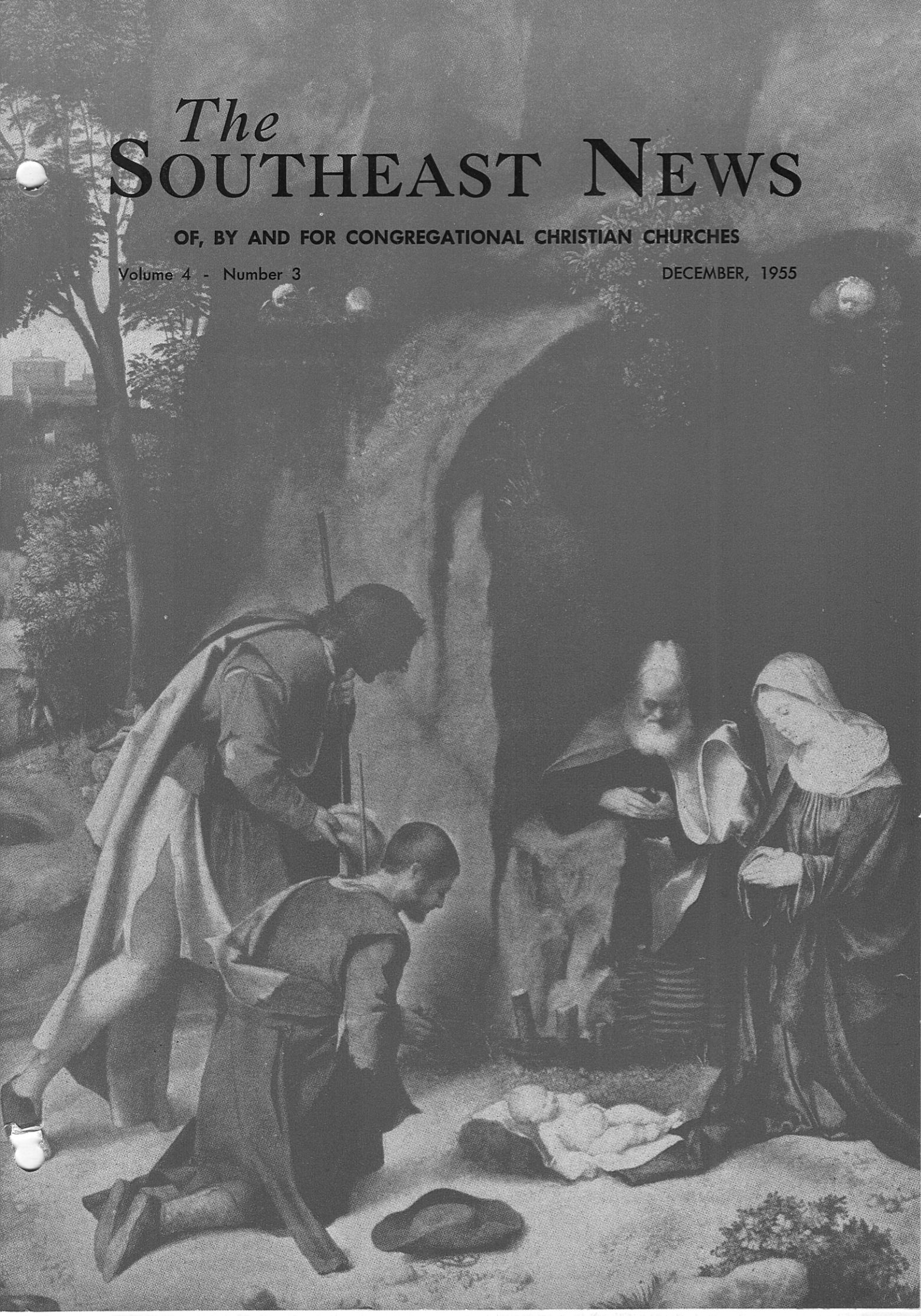


The SOUTHEAST NEWS

OF, BY AND FOR CONGREGATIONAL CHRISTIAN CHURCHES

Volume 4 - Number 3

DECEMBER, 1955



Rev. Dollar Called to Bertha, Minnesota

The Rev. C. Carl Dollar, formerly director of the Christian Rural Extension Service in the Southeast Convention, has accepted a call to the Bertha Congregational Christian Church in Bertha, and Oak Grove Church, Verndale, Minn. He will begin his work in December. Mr. Dollar resigned recently from his position on the staff of the Southeast Convention.

A native of Alabama, the Rev. Dollar is well-known throughout the area. His father, the Rev. John D. Dollar, has been serving churches in East Alabama for many years; and his brothers and sisters are leaders in the churches of which they are members.

Mr. Dollar attended Bethlehem College, which later became Southern Union. He attended Elon College, receiving his B.A., and Vanderbilt School of Religion for his B.D., and served churches in Tennessee, Alabama, and Texas. His last pastorate was Sanford, N. C. During World War II he was a Chaplain with the Air Force for three years, stationed in Texas.

When the Christian Rural Extension Service was inaugurated, in 1949, Carl Dollar came to the Southeast Convention as the director, working jointly with the convention and the Town and Country Department of the Board of Home Missions, with the responsibility of building up the programs of churches in the Roanoke area. This work was expanded to include the entire convention, and Mr. Dollar's zeal and devoted service to the churches was commemorated in a Citation given him at the last annual meeting in May, 1955.

Mrs. Dollar is the former Florence Partridge of Mountville, Ga. She has been active in church work through the years and served as treasurer of the Alabama Women's Fellowship last year. Mrs. Dollar is widely known as a wonderful cook, and is in great demand as dietitian for summer camps.

The Dollars have two children: John, aged 12, and Penny, aged 9.

The Dollars will be greatly missed in the Southeast Convention, and it is hoped that they are going to Minnesota "on loan" and will return to the south before many years.

Valley Workshop

On November 27 the Annual Valley Sunday School Workshop was held at the Lanett Church, with West Point Bethel, Huguley, Todd and Langdale churches participating. S. W. Seymour moderated the sessions, with W. O. McGill, the Rev. W. M. McCullars, Mrs. Gladys Carlisle, Rev. A. C. Nelson and Aaron Nixon participating in the program.

Addresses were given as follows: "How to Work with Small Children," Mrs. Ethel Raye; "Working With Teen Ageds," Mrs. Ruby Smith; "Enlisting Young Married Couples," Winfred Walters and Mrs. A. D. Harry; "Interesting Adults in S. S.," Mrs. Willie Sides; "How About Week Day Evening Classes?," Miss Ellen Hull; and "Proposals for the Leadership Training School," Rev. Joe A. French.

Dr. Stevens Called to Southington, Conn.

The Rev. W. Millard Stevens, D.D., minister of the Christian Temple, Norfolk, Va. since 1949, has accepted a call to the Congregational Church of Southington, Conn. He began his work in Southington December 1st.

Dr. Stevens is a native of Alabama, where his forebears were leaders in the Christian Church of that area for many years. He attended Southern Union College and was graduated from Elon College. He attended Duke University School and Yale Divinity School, graduating from Yale. Following seminary graduation, he served as Associate Superintendent and Superintendent in the Georgia, he became pastor of the First Christian Church of Burlington in 1944, where he served with distinction and resigned to accept the pastorate of the Temple.

During Dr. Stevens' pastorate at the Temple, he has not only served efficiently as the pastor of this important church, but as president of the Greater Norfolk Ministerial Association, is a member of the Advisory Committee for solicitation on the City Council of Norfolk, and on the Education Committee of the Chamber of Commerce of Norfolk. He served on the Executive Committee of the Norfolk Preaching Mission. He is a member of the Theophilus Club and the Torch Club. He also served as secretary and two terms as president of the Southern Convention—in all these relationships serving most efficiently and successfully.

- The Christian Sun, Southern Convention

Georgia Council Meets

"What Our Council of Churches Can Mean Toward the Forwarding of Cooperative Church Activity in Our State" was the subject of a panel discussion at the third annual meeting of the Georgia Council of Churches November 22 at All Saints Episcopal Church, Atlanta.

The Rev. Erston M. Butterfield, Superintendent of Congregational Christian Churches, Atlanta, served as panel moderator.

Panelists included Dr. James Ross McCain, President Emeritus, Agnes Scott College; the Right Rev. Randolph Caliborne, Bishop, Episcopal Diocese of Atlanta; and Mrs. A. H. Sterne, member of the National Executive Board of the United Church Women.

A project for the Georgia Council of Churches could be to survey communities and plan where churches should be located so there would be no overlapping, Dr. McCain suggested.

Speaking on the future growth of the Council, Bishop Caliborne said the strong feeling communicants have for their own church gives strength to form cooperative enterprise. The Council cannot but benefit from the fruits of this strong faith, he declared.

Mrs. Sterne advocated more assistance be given rural churches and spoke out strongly for a more united Council to serve as a "Voice of Protestantism."

"Cooperation" and "freedom of discussion"

Laymen and Women at Work

A series of meetings with laymen and women of South Georgia, arranged by the Rev. Goff Bedford, Pastor of the First Church of Tifton, was held at Vanceville on November 7, Ambrose on November 8, Tifton on November 9, Enigma on November 10, Baxley on November 11, and Union Hill of Pearson on November 12.

Mrs. Frank Gordon, President of the Georgia-South Carolina Conference Women's Fellowship, spoke at the women's meetings and Frank Gordon, SEC President of Laymen's Fellowship, spoke to the men.

A previous meeting of the men at Vanceville had been held, at which time the following officers were elected: W. C. Carpenter, Jr., chairman; T. J. Hand, assist. chairman; Rev. R. H. Abbott, chaplain; Ben Cooper, asst. chaplain; and Ray Carpenter, secretary-treasurer.

The men at Ambrose organized as the Ambrose Community Club and elected the following officers: William Herrington president; Edwin Durden, vice president; and Virgil Buchon, secretary-treasurer.

The other churches planned subsequent meetings to complete their organizations. At all meetings the necessity of a definite long-range program of projects was recognized. As these programs are developed and carried out it is believed they will add much to the progress of the churches.

The first meeting with the women of the churches of South Georgia was held at Vanceville. Although attendance was not large there was much enthusiasm and interest, and it gave the state president opportunity to meet the women and discuss their activities and problems and to present or clarify what the Woman's Fellowship program attempts to accomplish.

Due to a change in dates from Tifton First to Ambrose on Tuesday night and Ambrose to Tifton on Wednesday night, attendance at Tifton was small and there was no women's meeting at Ambrose, as the women had made previous arrangements to attend a meeting at Douglas. However, the response from the women at Tifton First who got together for an informal discussion, following the pot-luck supper with the men, was most gratifying.

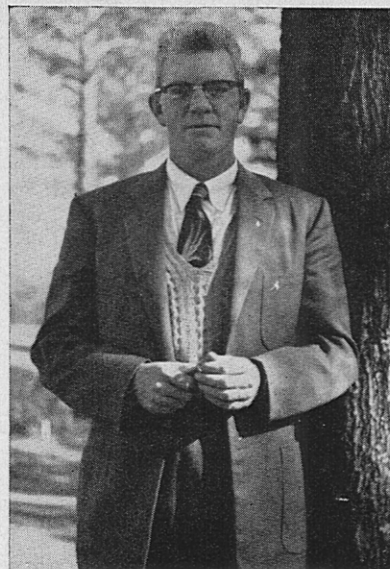
Attendance at Enigma was very good. There was enthusiasm and much interest. Good work has been done in the past and should be even better in the year ahead.

The women at Baxley showed themselves to be a dedicated group of concerned women who are also doing a very fine job.

Saturday proved to be a poor time for the meeting at Union Hill in Pearson, but those who attended the meeting, following the pot-luck supper, gave Mrs. Gordon a warm welcome. Union Hill has been doing good work in the past and under the leadership of the new pastor, the Rev. Dixon Stimpson, and with Mrs. Stimpson's under-

(Please turn to page 4)

were key words as the speakers made plans for the Council's future work.



Rev. Dixon Stimpson

A Colorful Background

The Rev. Dixon Stimpson and his family came to Pearson, Ga. on November 6, and Mr. Stimpson began his service as pastor of the Union Hill Church.

Mr. Stimpson was born in the small iron mining community of Mineville, N. Y., which is also the home of Johnny Podres, hero of the World series. As a boy he appeared in several silent movie serials, including "Around the World in Eighty Days", "The Law of the Yukon", "North of 36" and some of the late Pearl White thrillers.

After graduation from high school, "Dix" worked in the mines before becoming a newspaper reporter. He was a sand-hog and then had some brief stage experience.

He attended the Drexel Institute of Technology in Philadelphia and accepted a position as consultant with an engineering firm. During World War II he was Project Engineer for the development of the C-1 Auto-Pilot on the Manhattan Project. After the war, "Dix" was manager of a cleated-fibre shipping case corporation and more recently was a radio announcer and newscaster and the producer of the radio show "Memory Book", a quarter hour of history, legend and folklore.

At the age of 16 "Dix" supplied his home community church. In Philadelphia he was president of the Men's Association and auditor of the Presbyterian Church. At Plattsburg he taught Sunday School, supplied vicinity pulpits and assisted in teaching religious education. His grandfathers were ministers, and the Rev. S. Locke was president of Harvard University for many years.

Mrs. Stimpson, the former Eleanor Mitchell, is the daughter of the late Dr. Walter M. Mitchell, Ph.D., who taught at Princeton and Pennsylvania Universities. She is a granddaughter of the Rev. Dr. E. Burr late pastor of the Baptist Church in Newton Center Mass., and the great granddaughter of the Rev. Dr. W. M. Mann, Lutheran pastor and scholar.

Mrs. Stimpson is an artist and attended the

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Volume 4 DECEMBER, 1955 Number 3

Laymen and Women at Work

(From page 3)

standing and capable support, will certainly make progress.

The meetings as a whole were most encouraging and stimulating, and the Gordons can truly testify that southern hospitality is far more than a phrase applied to the days gone by.

These meetings were made possible by the hospitality of the Rev. and Mrs. Goff Bedford, who entertained the Gordons November 7-10, Mr. and Mrs. H. Y. Sears of Pearson, who had them in their home November 11-13, and offerings received at some meetings, plus a personal contribution.

We extend to all our friends in the Southeast Convention our best wishes for a joyous, blessed Christmas and a successful New Year for you and your church.

Mrs. Frank Gordon, President
Women's Fellowship of Georgia-South Carolina
Frank Gordon, President
SEC Laymen's Fellowship

Grand Central School of Fine Arts in New York City after graduation from Harcum Jr. College in Bryn Mawr, Pa.

She has been active in church work, teaching Sunday School, directing the church nursery and helping to organize the Women's Association.

The Stimpsons have three children: Connie, a high school sophomore; Abigail, in the third grade; and David Locke, who just entered first grade.

The family has been welcomed into the Union Hill church and community in the best southern tradition, according to Mr. Stimpson, who says they are thoroughly in love with the south. The sincerity, goodness and devotion of the Pearson people have greatly impressed them.

Mr. Stimpson hopes to continue his studies in order to better serve his church.

YOUTH WEEK

OUR CITIZENSHIP UNDER CHRIST is the theme of Youth Week, January 29 - February 5, 1956. This has rightly become an important feature in Protestant churches. It is a time to highlight a particular theme of great moment to Christian youth.

Let's observe Youth Week in all of our churches in the Southeast Convention. The Youth Week Packet may be ordered from Young People's Department, 14 Beacon St., Boston 8, Mass. for fifty cents. Plenty of ideas are given for community or local church planning.

It is suggested that Sunday, January 29 be observed as Pilgrim Fellowship Day. In many churches the young people plan and conduct the morning service of worship on that occasion. Various events may be held during the week. Suggestions may be found in your PF Preview and in the Fellowship Commission pamphlet sent you. February 5 is Interdenominational Sunday — a time for a community service or rally.

The Youth Week Packet contains many suggestions of projects related to the theme. A radio play is included. It may be possible for you to produce this on your local radio station.

(Quoted and condensed from Nov. Preview)

S. S. LITERATURE

Six sample sets of the International Uniform Series of Sunday School Literature, published by the E. & R. at Christian Education Press, Schaff Building, 1505 Race St., Philadelphia, Pa., will be loaned on request from churches considering the use of this literature.

Miss Mildred Widber and the Rev. Lelia Anderson both recommended this literature as next best to our Pilgrim Series and as the best of the International Uniform Series published. They also publish an adult Lesson Leaf, either bound or separate.

Church in the Home (also published by P.P.	30c
Bible Lesson Stories (ages 6, 7, 8) quarter	20c
Picture Roll, quarter	\$1.50
Primary - Junior Teacher, quarter	40c
Junior Pupil (ages 9, 10, 11), quarter	25c
Youth - Adult Teacher, quarter	40c
Junior High (ages 12 - 14) quarter	25c
Senior - Young People (15 - 24) quarter	25c
Adult Student, quarter	25c
Lesson Leaf (adult) bound unless separate	
leaves are requested, quarter	12c

Women's Fellowship Manuals

The Manual of the National Fellowship of Congregational Christian Women, which newly organized groups will find quite helpful, is available from the SEC office. These were once included in the packet but have not been for the last few years. Price is 25c.

- Annie R. Campbell

Misses Marguerite Davison, Ruth Ford and Annie Campbell spent Thanksgiving Day with Miss Lois Leech and her household in Demorest, Georgia.

PILGRIM FELLOWSHIP

North Alabama Rally

On October 29-30 the North Alabama young people met at Bethlehem Church for their fall rally, with Glenda Washburn, president, presiding. The Garden City PF reported on Work Day for Christ, Jean Vincent, Glenda Washburn and Millard Fuller told of the convention-wide PF meeting in Lanett last spring, and Millard also told of plans for the second PF meeting in Chattanooga March 17 - 18, 1956.

Buzz sessions were held on the three commissions, with Millard Fuller, Bill Green and V. R. Dobson as leaders. After a bountiful supper, Millard and Bill conducted an hour of fellowship.

The Bethlehem group held a panel discussion on mission study books for the year, and the Rev. Annie Campbell showed a filmstrip, "Old Testament Heritage". A constitution was adopted, and it was decided to hold the next meeting at Trinity Caddo April 14-15. Officers were elected as follows: Hayward Shelton, president; Glenda Washburn, vice president; Janie Lee Suggs, secretary-treasurer; Margaret Shelton, reporter; chairmen - Dorothy Suggs, Faith; Faylene Craig, Action; Jean Vincent, Fellowship.

Participating in the meeting were the Reverends Robert Yoh, Carl Landes and Guy L. Colbert.

* * *

Ky. - Tenn. Rally

The second annual rally of the Kentucky-Tennessee PF was held on October 29 at Evarts Community Church. The first business session was called to order by the vice president, Pat Repass. The Rev. Lowell Smoot was chosen Adult Counselor for the rest of the year. The Evarts group was asked to work out a constitution to be presented at the summer conference next June. Pleasant Hill Church extended an invitation for the next rally, and this was accepted.

Martha Wood and Linda Hodges of Soddy gave a chapel program on the American Indian. Pleasant Hill's delegation presented "Youth's Responsibility in a Changing World." A report on the Work Camp held this past summer at Southern Union was given by Bettye Cunningham and Frank Little.

The second business session was called to order with the president, Doug Henley, in the chair. Norma Moore and Bettye Cunningham were elected PF representatives to the Tennessee Council of Churches, and Dr. Paul Reynolds was chosen adult representative on the Youth Committee; Pat Repass and Pat Cox were chosen as representatives to the Kentucky Council of Churches and the Rev. Collie Seymour was chosen adult representative.

Mrs. T. L. Cunningham led the group in folk games during recreation periods.

- Bettye Cunningham, reporter

* * *

Central Alabama Rally

The Central Alabama District PF Rally was held at Thorsby United Church on November 27.



NORTH ALA. PF OFFICERS

North Ala. PF Officers: (Left to right) Margaret Shelton, Jean Vincent, Janie Lee Suggs, Faylene Craig, Hayward Shelton, Glenda Washburn, and Dorothy Suggs.

Reports were given by each local PF group on the amount made for Work Day for Christ and how they went about it.

Bobby Jack Pemberton, president, opened the business session. We were fortunate to have with us Miss Loretta Peterson, who has been serving as a nurse with the Air Force in Toko, Japan. She showed slides of Japan and told the story of each one. Miss Marguerite Davison, formerly Christian Education Director of the Southeast Convention, was also present. The Rev. Herbert Long and Millard Fuller also participated in the program.

* * *

All summer the Pleasant Hill PF worked very hard on a bean-patch. It was to have been a strawberry patch but weather did not permit. We are proud of the money we made, which was added to the building fund of the church.

Our group earned \$68 on Work Day for Christ—a wonderful surprise. That evening we met at the parsonage with the Rev. and Mrs. Reynolds, who served cookies, popcorn and apples. We all stood together and sang the Doxology.

On Hallowe'en night two groups under the leadership of Mr. and Mrs. V. J. Dodson and J. F. Meisimer Jr. went to all homes and collected toys to be given to children in and near the community at Christmas.

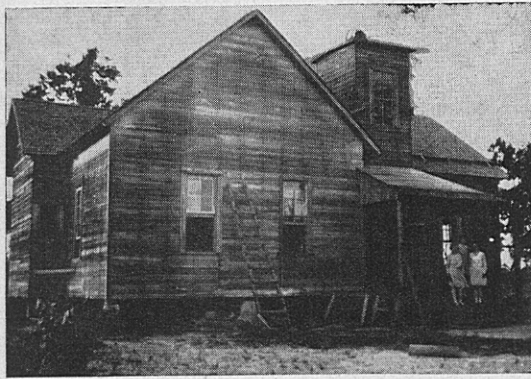
With Mrs. George Little and Mrs. T. L. Cunningham, nine PF members attended the rally at Evarts.

The Annual Christmas Bazaar was held November 16 at the Community House, with PF members helping in all booths and taking charge of the fish pond, guess cake and other things. The PF realized \$22.70, and this went into the Woman's Fellowship work.

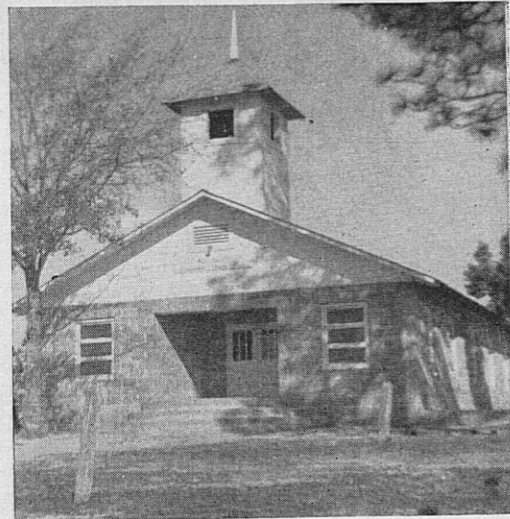
PF members are working on a Christmas play, "Guest at the Inn" which will be given along with the Annual Christmas Pageant.

- Sally Vivian Frazier, reporter

(Please turn to page 11)



New Effort - "Before"



New Effort - "After"

DEDICATION OF NEW EFFORT CHURCH BONIFAY, FLORIDA

A Service of Dedication was held at the New Effort Church on Sunday evening, November 20. Supt. Erston M. Butterfield was in charge of the service, assisted by the present pastor, the Rev. Ralph Worley, and the former pastor, the Rev. N. A. Long.

Work on this church was begun under Mr. Long's ministry and finished after Mr. Worley began serving the Northwest Florida Parish. Henry Ellis was chairman of the building committee.



STEELE MT. LEBANON CHURCH COMPLETED

The congregation is holding services in the new Mt. Lebanon Church, which is completely paid for with the exception of the gas heaters purchased on the installment plan. The county is moving the road and will provide for the landscaping, which is yet to be done.

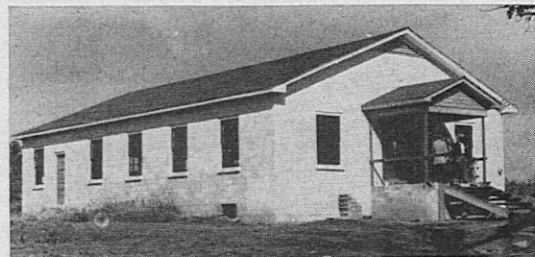
Although approved for a loan by the Church Building Department, through special efforts and sacrifice on the part of members and friends, the loan was

not needed. Funds released by the church were used to help one of the churches in Connecticut damaged by the recent floods, according to Wm. Kincaid Newman of the Church Building Department.

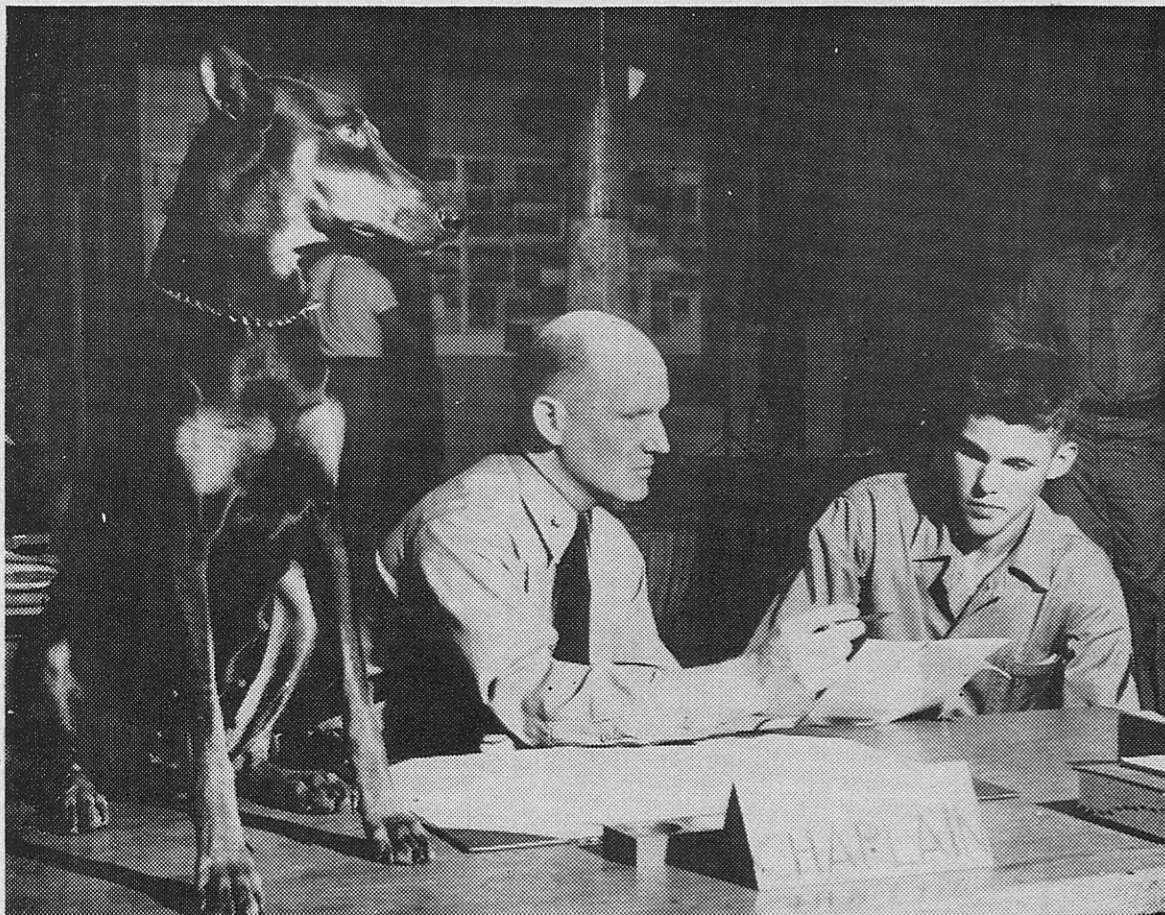
The Rev. Elmer H. Smith is pastor, and the Rev. Erston M. Butterfield preached here November 27, his sermon topic being "The Church and the Living God."



Mt. Lebanon - "Before"



Mt. Lebanon - "After"



(Official USMC Photo by S.Sgt. Russell Savatt)

Lt. Cmdr. Thomas Isbell (left), pastor of the Fredonia Congregational Church in Barnesville, Ga., chats with a Marine reserve in his office at the Naval Amphibious Base, Little Creek, Va., as Gretchen, a Doberman Pinscher, who is mascot of the Marine Corps Reserve Training Center, looks on. The Leatherneck Reserve is Pvt. Robert E. Gambol of Media, Pa.

Chaplain Isbell served on three months' active duty with the Naval Amphibious Base at Little Creek this past summer. He is head of the department of English at Brenau College in Gainesville, Ga., and resides in Anderson, S. C.

Church Receives Gift

According to the pastor, the Rev. Peter Doherty, Columbus First Congregational Church has been given a plot of land, consisting of three lots, for the erection of a new church building by the Columbus Manufacturing Company.

Mr. Forbes Bradley, president of the company, announced the gift in a letter to Mr. Doherty on November 7.

The land is on First Avenue, immediately south of the property now owned by the church on which the parsonage is located. It will allow ample room for expansion as the church grows. Plans are being made for a building fund.

Mr. Bradley also stated in his letter that the Columbus Manufacturing Company appreciated the good work the church is doing in the vicinity of the plant, and that the board of directors voted that the property be donated for this reason and also because a large percentage of the employees of the plant are members of Columbus First Church.

Bison Staff Announced

Wayne Green a sophomore student from Galant, was elected Editor-in-Chief of The Bison, the student yearbook of Southern Union College. George Johnson of Roanoke was chosen associate editor and C. Coleman Brooks of Millerville as business manager. Professor Robert C. Yoh was elected advisor. Elections were held during the regular student assembly.

The newly-elected "top-brass" announced the appointment of student and faculty assistants for the publication. Robert Bain of Pisgah was appointed sports editor; Miss Jackie Bass of Chipley, associations and clubs editor; Julius Heath of Ashland, snapshots editor; Miss Jerry Paul of Bonifay, Emmett Nichols of Roanoke and Dwight Craig of Alexander City, write-up editors; Miss Nanci Linger of Worcester, Mass., and Dennis Waldrop of Alexander City, art editors; Dr. Wm. A. Broyles and Neil Anderson, Hackneyville, Photography editors.

Work on the Bison is in progress. Publication will be the first week of June, 1956.

Church News

The Daisy Church sent five delegates to the Kentucky-Tennessee Conference in Nashville: Mr. and Mrs. Ellis Ferry, Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Burnett and Mrs. Claude Pendergrass. Miss Sammye Burnett also attended.

Sunday School teachers and officers met recently at the home of Mrs. Claude Pendergrass for further discussion on the study group held by the Rev. Annie Campbell last month. The group voted to buy flannelgraphs for the nursery and primary departments. K. R. Griswold presided at the meeting. Mrs. Estell Rogers was added as a primary teacher.

Mrs. J. W. Davenport installed the new officers of the Guild recently, as follows: Mrs. Claude Pendergrass, president; Miss Doris Rogers, vice president; Mrs. Paul Lewis, secretary; Mrs. Richie W. Rogers, treasurer; Mrs. Ellis Ferry, key woman; Mrs. Paul Davenport, friendly service chairman; Mrs. R. C. Webb, devotional chairman; Mrs. Lowell Smoot, program chairman.

The new friendly service quota was read by the chairman, who stated that our assignment included a home project and a foreign project for this year. Mrs. Smoot gave us some interesting facts about our home project.

Mrs. Ellis Ferry was named World Day of Prayer chairman, with Mrs. Lowell Smoot and Mrs. Claude Pendergrass assisting.

The Rev. Smoot gave a review of our mission book, "This Revolutionary Faith". This was our pastor's first visit to the guild, but after this excellent review he has a standing invitation to return.

Mr. and Mrs. Paul Davenport are the proud parents of twin sons, named Thomas Leroy and Timothy Garry but better known as Tom and Tim. Paul is the son of the Rev. and Mrs. J. W. Davenport, who was our pastor for some twenty years.

- Mrs. Claude Pendergrass, reporter

* * *

The Men's Club of Chattanooga Pilgrim Church held an interesting program on Nov. 15 entitled "Are Christian Ethics a Hindrance to Business Success?". Joe Pahle served as chairman of the round table discussion, with participants as follows: "Can You Sell Without Lying?" by Don Mcguire; "Is There Any Honest Advertising?" by Joe Pahle; "Are Government Agencies Above Christian Ethics?" by Roland Kampmeier; "Whose Responsibility is Morality in Business?" by Joe Davis; "The White Lie" by Dr. Augustus McCravey.

Allen Duggan is president of the Men's Club, and his able assistants in planning programs are Ernest Wenrick, Leon Lewis, Gus Currier, Allen Duggan and the pastor, the Rev. Arnold Slater.

* * *

Ft. Valley Society continues to make good progress under the able leadership of the Rev. Woodrow Dorsey. Church attendance has increased to an average of 65 through each Sunday in October and November. Our new pews have arrived, and we are very thankful for them.

Mrs. Ruth Hutto is our Sunday School superintendent, and our choir consists of Misses Delois

Walker, Etheline Wiggins, Bettie Kay Marshall and Martha Gorden.

- Ethel Jones, reporter

* * *

The Rev. Edward Knight of Andalusia, Ala., has been called as pastor of WAYCROSS WILLIAMS CHAPEL CHURCH. Mr. Knight and his family moved into the parsonage on November 11, during the afternoon, and a group from the Women's Fellowship was there to greet them with a good supper. That evening the church welcomed the new pastor with a pantry shower, and coffee and cookies were served during the social hour.

The Rev. and Mrs. Knight have three boys, Edward, Larry and Terry.

On November 14 the Rev. Knight, Charles Griffin, Warren Smith, N. A. Long, Jr., Jimmy Jernigan and Vernon Gray attended the Ministers and Laymen's meeting in Douglas, Ga.

Lester Shaw entertained the Laymen's Fellowship with a fish supper at the Sunday School rooms on November 16.

Our building fund is still growing, and everyone is working toward the goal of \$4,500. We feel that with prayer and work we will reach that goal in the near future.

Mrs. C. H. Griffin, reporter

* * *

On Monday night, November 7, the VANCEVILLE CHURCH women's and men's fellowships were delighted to have Mr. and Mrs. Frank Gordon of Atlanta as guest speakers.

Mrs. Gordon, president of Georgia Women's Fellowship, told the women about the Delmo Project, as well as other projects of the national women's fellowship. Mrs. W. C. Carpenter, Jr., was appointed chairman to collect coupons for the orphanage in the Southern Convention, and to get the names and ages of children there who would like "pen pals".

Mr. Gordon, president of the SEC Laymen's Fellowship, met with the men. Some years ago the men of the church began a "Corn Club", each member pledging one acre of corn for the church. They held no regular meetings, and the men's fellowship grew out of the Corn Club. Now the men meet once each month, on the same night as the women's fellowship, and the women serve light refreshments to both groups following the meetings.

- Mrs. Rosie Hand, reporter

* * *

FREDONIA CHURCH proved a delightful hostess to the Fredonia-Prospect missionary societies in a well planned all day program on Nov. 15. In the morning Prospect Methodist Church had charge of the program. After an interesting devotional by Miss Kila Means, Miss Betty Joe Hill, rural worker of this Methodist district, talked impressively on Thanksgiving.

In the afternoon the Rev. Miss Annie Campbell, Minister of Christian Education for the Southeast Convention, and Mrs. Frank Gordon, state president of Woman's Fellowship, gave an inspiring devotional. This was followed by a thought - provoking and soul - stirring communication on prayer by Miss Campbell, who, at the conclusion of her talk, showed slides informative

of the "Woman's Gift". The entire assembly pronounced the day's program happy and revealing.

Recently all windows in the church sanctuary were restored and sash balances installed. Preparations are in the offing to have the church repainted. The parsonage, too, has received some needed repairs: the interior has been painted, new doors set up, and chimneys put in order.

All organizations of the church are functioning above the average, and the financial and religious status of Fredonia Church is encouraging.

- Janie Bush, reporter

* * *

ATLANTA CENTRAL CHURCH began an Every Member Canvass on November 17 to meet the church budget of \$27,870.84. Miles D. Miller is chairman of the finance committee.

At the November meeting of the Women's Guild, a panel discussion was held on Our Christian World Mission with Mrs. Edward Askren, Jr. as moderator and Mrs. M. B. Porter, Jr., Mrs. W. F. Gordon and Mrs. E. M. Butterfield as panelists. The following officers were elected at the business meeting preceding the luncheon: Mrs. Carl Henry, president; Mrs. Walter Jackson, vice president; Mrs. Ralph White, recording secretary; Mrs. James Simmons, corresponding secretary; Mrs. Ray Richardson, treasurer; Mrs. James Mahaffey, chairman Circle No. 1, Mrs. Milton Bentley, chairman Circle No. 2; Mrs. Ralph Ferren, chairman Circle No. 3.

The guild furnished cookies for the U. S. O. lounge on November 12, and was host church for World Community Day on November 4, sponsored by the United Church Women of Atlanta.

- From The Messenger

* * *

ANDALUSIA ANTIOCH CHURCH members held the annual business meeting November 5, and officers and committee chairmen were elected as follows: Clerk, Betty Baisden; Treasurer, Evelyn Nelson; Church School Supt., A. L. Baisden; Asst. Supt., Shirley Berry; Secretary, Lucille Adams; Deacons, Seth Stewart, A. L. Baisden, Bruce Clark, Grady B. Adams, Jr.; Deaconesses, Irene Adams, Lillie Biggs, Lillie Belle Hemby, Mamie Bradley; Trustees, Alton Merrill, Woodrow Hemby, Bryant Worley, Eugene Worley, Ted Dye, Grady B. Adams; Board of Finance, James Adams, Walter Biggs, Bruce Clark, Judson Jones, Claude Stewart, Imogene Stewart, Ted Dye, Winnie Dye, and Evelyn Nelson.

Our PF groups have redecorated a room at the parsonage to be used as a guest room. Young people are also making and selling Christmas corsages the proceeds to go into a fund for a projector for the church.

A highlight of church activities was the slave auction held by the young people. Boys and girls were "sold" to the highest bidder for Work Day for Christ. Auctioneer was Bruce Clark, and "slaves" were Mary Evelyn Thrasher, Sammy Adams, Joanne Clark, Tommy Adams, Betty Baisden, Benny Adams, Peggy Nelson, Winnie Baisden, and Lynn Nelson.

* * *

SEMAN COMMUNITY CHURCH has planned a Christmas play for December 16. They are using "Unto Us A Child", but have made some additions

to the play as written to make it longer, and will also have poems and songs and the Christmas tree. The local Baptist Church is cooperating with the program and the exchange of gifts.

- Fannie Mae Brown, reporter

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At the annual meeting of ROBERTSON'S CHAPEL of Arley, Ala., all the old officers resigned, the by-laws were revised to stagger the terms of the deacons and trustees, and a complete new slate of officers was elected. Hereafter one new deacon and one new trustee will be elected each year.

The following officers were elected: Clerk, Mrs. Pensa Pratt; Secretary, Mrs. W. N. Robertson; S. S. Supt., Neal Cleghorn; Deacons, Valise Robertson, Neal Cleghorn and J. C. Smith; Trustees, Marcena Robertson, William Waldrop and Arthur Knighton.

At the last regular preaching Sunday, Nov. 13, Dr. Guy L. Colbert, pastor-at-large to the North Alabama Association, brought the message and assisted by the pastor set apart the deacons and installed the officers. Following this service, Dr. Colbert read the charge to the congregation and to the pastor-elect, and duly installed the Rev. Marvin R. Waugh as pastor.

The church seems to have taken on new life since Mr. Waugh assumed his duties as interim pastor the middle of last year, and attendance has risen from an average of 12 to 46 each Sunday.

After the services, the church voted to raise and accept its goal for Our Christian World Mission.

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The Every Member Canvass at ANDALUSIA FIRST CHURCH was preceded by a delightful "pot-luck" supper on November 15 and was well attended. Those present gave the new pastor and his wife a surprise grocery shower or an old-fashioned "pounding". After supper Mrs. Alfred Adams led the group in singing some fun songs.

The budget as proposed by the Board of Trustees was presented and explained by the pastor, the Rev. Scott Morris, Jr. After adoption of the budget, pledge cards were given to all members present.

Leaving the fellowship hall, the group went into the sanctuary where the pastor led in a brief stewardship devotional. The pledge cards were then placed on the offering plates and carried to the altar while the congregation sang the Doxology.

The canvass is proving successful, and First Church of Andalusia is looking forward to a spirit-filled year.

- Scott Morris, Jr., Pastor

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Oct. 16 was Stewardship Sunday at PHENIX CITY UNITED CHURCH. Pledge cards were signed for the coming year and the Every Member Canvass inaugurated. A budget of \$8,716 was estimated for the 1955-56 year, and by November 15 pledges of \$8,946. had been received from 79 members.

The choir concert on November 9 was very successful, with \$32 received for choir robes and many requests for another concert soon.

Our Church Christian Education Council has set up a new plan of three adult classes: young adults (18-32), adults (32-45), and senior adults (45 and up). Teachers are the Rev. Crutcher, Wilson Rogers and Mrs. O. C. Hilyer.

The Rev. Robert Yoh, Southern Union College, was guest preacher on November 20 during the minister's absence.

- From Newsletter for November

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EAST TALLASSEE CHURCH has moved along with much progress this past year, under the able leadership of the Rev. Herbert Long. Among many of the projects completed are painting the church, flooring and screening the parsonage porch, purchase of an attic fan and remodeling the church altar, and the purchase of new pews. All this has been paid for in addition to a budget of more than \$6,000 and an increase of \$1,570 to the building fund.

The laymen have been busy—they purchased pulpit furniture of lectern, pulpit and communion table. In their very able manner they presented the goal for Our Christian World Mission of \$720 which was accepted by the church. They also helped to install the pews and built a closet for the choir robes. They have interesting programs and are now making plans for the annual ladies night. Marrell Rhodes is president.

The Women's Fellowship is led by Mrs. Marrell Rhodes, president, and they too have been very active. They have collected food and sent a donation to help Southern Union College. One of their most enjoyable projects is "secret pals".

Bobby Jack Pemberton, S. S. Supt., reports that this has been one of the best years. He attributes this to the interest of his teachers and good literature. (They are using Pilgrim Series this year.) His dream is to one day have more room for each of his classes.

The choir purchased an electric Hammond organ, of which they are very proud. Various means have been devised to pay for it, the latest being an Apron Social from which they realized about \$90. For entertainment, talent from the choir was used, with each member contributing to the program. A turkey supper and donations from friends and members have helped to make the payments. The organist is Mrs. Virginia Fralic, assisted by Mrs. Jettie Logan. Churchill Ledbetter is choir director.

- Jettie Logan

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On October 23 David Lawrence Moncus was ordained as a deacon of the LANETT CHURCH, following the morning service.

A religious census was taken the afternoon of October 23, with the Baptist, Methodist, Nazarene, Church of God, Congregational Christian, and Disciples churches cooperating in this city-wide project to obtain information the churches need for a more effective outreach.

The youth recreation project was begun for the fall and winter with a meeting on October 24. Recreation for the youth of high school age will be held each Monday evening, under the leadership of William Hodnett.

The Rev. French is conducting Wednesday



DORCAS CHURCH - CRESTVIEW, FLA.

Supt. Butterfield preached the morning sermon at Dorcas on November 20, remaining for a fellowship meal served on the church grounds. The Rev. Ralph Worley is pastor.

night prayer meetings using "Church Symbolism" as the theme. Many of us now know the meaning of our symbols on the Communion Table.

Members of the Church Builders Club attending the annual meeting October 30 in Phenix City were Tom Crenshaw, John Dollar, Jr., William Hodnett, Charlie Miller, Herman Cook and the Rev. French.

On November 5 we observed World Community Day at the Methodist Church, bringing used clothing for shipping abroad by the United Council of Church Women.

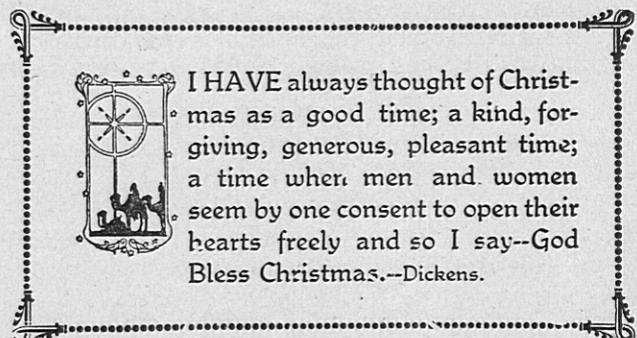
The Pilgrim Fellowship enjoyed a "Work Day" on November 12 by washing windows and doing general housecleaning. They made \$16, and the money is to be used to pay for crab orchard stone for the church entrance. That evening the young people celebrated their success with a possum hunt. Adults who also enjoyed this occasion were Posey Sorrell, Frank Moon and Millard Fuller.

The nursery has received a gift of two rocking chairs from Mrs. Render Fuller, and Mrs. Charlie Miller gave a green wool rug for the Toddler's room.

On November 18 the Men's Club, under the leadership of W. O. McGill, sold brooms and mops. With the proceeds from this venture the men will purchase tables for the church dining room. The janitor has been discharged and the men of the church are taking over his duties. The money budgeted for janitorial service will be used to purchase carpets for the church sanctuary.

On November 26 our church was host to the East Alabama - West Georgia Laymen's Fellowship.

- Mrs. Cooper Cannon, reporter



I HAVE always thought of Christmas as a good time; a kind, forgiving, generous, pleasant time; a time when men and women seem by one consent to open their hearts freely and so I say--God Bless Christmas.--Dickens.



BARNESVILLE OFFICERS

(Left to right) Mrs. G. Z. Sullivan, Mrs. A. M. Bush, Mrs. A. N. Moye, Mrs. Ben Bush, and Miss Jessie Sappington, all of Barnesville, Fredonia Church. Mrs. Ben Bush is retiring president and others are new officers.

(Story on page eight.)

Miss Loretta Petersen has finished her enlistment period as a flight nurse and has been visiting her mother and grandmother in Thorsby, Ala. She left November 28 for California to serve as a nurse there and plans to enter Washington University in Seattle, Wash., next fall to earn the degree in public health nursing.

The Rev. Donald W. Ross has accepted a call to Todd Church in Shawmut, Ala. With his wife and boys he moved to the community during the first week in December.



RECOGNITION SERVICE

Mr. William M. McCullars received his license by the Ministerial Committee of the East Alabama Association November 20, in a very impressive recognition service. Ministers participating were (left to right) the Reverends W. M. McCullars, E. S. Fetner, John D. Dollar, Aubrey Manley, Donald Ross, A. C. Nelson, Joe French, Charles Bell and Carl Dollar. Mr. McCullars is now serving the West Point Bethel Church.

Pilgrim Fellowship

(From page 5)

EAST TALLASSEE LIBERTY PF observed Work Day for Christ October 22, with about 25 young people working as a group doing odd jobs and earning \$25. They celebrated their success with a hayride on that night, and dedicated the money to Our Christian World Mission on Sunday. On November 19 this group held a Bazaar, selling articles they had made and realizing a profit of \$17.65. In both ventures the group put the three commissions, Faith, Action and Fellowship, to work.

- Marie Pemberton, reporter

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MT. OLIVE (TALLASSEE) PF observed Work Day for Christ October 22, meeting at the parsonage at eight a. m. for a short worship program and then going out to their various jobs of washing blinds, mopping floors, sweeping leaves, etc. After a hard day's work we met back at the Community Club where some of the mothers had prepared a delicious supper of hot dogs, drinks, cookies and potato chips for us. We held our dedication service on Sunday night, October 30.

- Connie Culpepper, reporter

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DAISY PF recently held a white elephant sale, which netted \$18.44. On Work Day for Christ they made \$26.40, and this money was turned over to the church treasurer for missions. Mrs. Ellis Ferry is leader of this hard-working group.

- Mrs. Claude Pendergrass

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THE EAST TALLASSEE LIBERTY PF took as a project buying brick to help build the new church, and has accumulated many bricks. A good Work Day for Christ was held. Under the leadership of Mrs. Miriam Fralic, Miss Willa Durden and Mr. and Mrs. Floyd Carmack they use packet materials and have very interesting programs. From this group comes the Youth Choir, which is led by Mrs. Herbert Long. They also have the worship program on Sunday nights and help in many of the special programs.

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THE JR. PF OF FIRST CHURCH, Andalusia, ran behind schedule with their Work Day for Christ, but made up for it by working two weekends, earning \$20. The Senior PF made a \$6 contribution to this worthy project.

The two PF groups have recently been entertained by the new pastor, the Rev. Scott Morris, Jr., and his wife in their home. The Seniors were entertained at an informal gathering after the Sunday evening worship service on November 13. After several games of "pit", Mrs. Morris served the guests trays containing sandwiches, cookies, potato chips and hot chocolate. She was assisted by Mrs. Glenn Brunson.

On November 20 the Juniors met at the pastor's home for a Sunday afternoon hour of fun and fellowship. They too learned to play "pit" and had a good time participating in the game. Mrs. Morris and Mrs. O. C. Graves, co-hostess and sponsor, served the Juniors home-made cake and soft drinks.

673 Piedmont Avenue, N. E.
Atlanta, Georgia

A Christmas Message

"And the angel said unto them, be not afraid, for behold I bring you glad tidings of great joy which shall be to all people, for there is born unto you this day in the city of David a Saviour who is Christ the Lord."

There are two places on which the world's attention is focused as nowhere else; the manger in Bethlehem and the Cross on Calvary, the birth-place and the death scene of the Man who "Spake as never man spake" and whose teachings and life are transforming the world. Both scenes are associated with the world's greatest joys; the first being radiant with the angel message of good will to men, and the second being linked with Christ's victory over death and the grave. Christianity's great festivals are seasons of rejoicing which reach to all people and all classes, without distinction of age, or sex, or race, or condition in life. God reveals Himself to men in them as the God of the people, the common people.

There is more than accident in the fact that the Saviour of men was born in a stable. This links the Christ with the very poorest and meanest of men; and it makes it possible for men who are despised and rejected of their fellows to draw near to Him with a feeling of kinship. The manger of Bethlehem teaches that all may read the fact that God does stoop to the very lowest of men. The One who had not where to lay His head is kin to every homeless wanderer.

The Babe who lay so helpless in His mother's arms tells also the story that God is Father to all men. He is the God of the weak and of the helpless, and He is especially concerned with the children. The helpless Babe in Bethlehem's manger may be poor and weak and ignorant, yet He is heir to all the fullness of God; and that baby hand, which now is too weak to clasp anything save perhaps the finger of His mother, is to sway the sceptre of the Kingdom which is over all. Who could guess what power lay enshrined in that little form, so weak and helpless? Who can guess what lies in the child of today for weal or for woe?

The chief story which the manger tells is of a love so great that it stopped at nothing in order to reveal itself to the children of men. In order to redeem men God must Himself become man; and so the Christ came to live our life, suffer as we suffer, rejoice as we rejoice, and die as we die, so that He might be able to understand our nature and help us to understand the nature of the Eternal. Love stands revealed in sacrifice and suffering as it cannot well be revealed in any other way. But when love impels, all sacrifice becomes a joy. Christ did not come unwillingly to earth. He did not murmur nor complain at the price He had to pay for the salvation of men, and the men who follow Him will be like Him in this.

We cannot reach men while we remain apart from them. Only by stooping to them can we lift them up - and the stooping is not hard to the man who loves.
We wish you a blessed Christmas season!

ERSTON M. BUTTERFIELD, Superintendent
ARCHIE B. BEDFORD, Moderator
MONTEZ G. ALBRIGHT, Registrar
WM. FRANK GORDON, Treasurer
LOUISE FULLER, Office Secretary